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fight with him. Híalmar accepts the challenge, and with his companion Odds slays the twelve sons of Arngrimr on Samsey. But Híalmar is himself mortally wounded. Such is the setting for no. VII, *Híalmar's Sterbelied*, a reminiscence poem, in which the dying hero recalls his past life. The poem is preserved in two forms, a longer one of twelve strophes in the *Orvar-Odds-saga*, a shorter one of eight strophes in the *Hervararsaga*. Heusler and Ranisch print both, but consider with Bugge, *Norr. Skr.*, 311, 26-30, the longer version as the original. Finnur Jónsson, *Litt. Hist.*, 2, 148, takes the opposite view and looks upon the extra strophes of the *Orvar-Odds-saga* as later interpolations. Such discussions will continue to be carried on in all cases where two versions of any literary production are preserved.

Angantýr's daughter, Hervor, born after his death, grows up without any knowledge of her father. When, as a young woman, she learns the truth about him, she arms herself like an Amazon and goes forth to do warlike deeds worthy of his name. Here the *Hervorlied* gives us a vivid picture of this dauntless maid. She goes to Samsey at night, calls her father out of the grave, and implores him to give up to her the accursed sword Tyrfin; he is at first reluctant, knowing the fate that awaits her if she takes it, but finally yields, warning her of her doom.

Hervor bears a son Heiðrekr, who becomes famous for his wisdom in solving riddles. The '*Heiðreks Gátur*,' *Eddica Minora*, no. XXI, give us the only picture in verse we have of this descendant of Arngrimr. Heiðrekr promises freedom to his foe, Gestumblindi, on condition he shall ask riddles which the former cannot solve. Gestumblindi calls to his aid Oden, who, in the form of Gestumblindi, gives a number of riddles. Heiðrekr answers all until he finally asks: "What did Oden whisper in Baldr's ear before he was borne to the funeral pile (cf. *Vafþrúdnismál* 54). Heiðrekr strikes at Oden with his sword Tyrfin, but the latter changes himself into a falcon and, pronouncing a curse on the king that he shall perish at the hands of his servants, disappears.

Heiðrekr left two sons, one Angantýr, named for his great-grandfather, and by a daughter of Humli, King of the Huns, an illegitimate son,

Hloðr. Of the war between these two brothers and the curse that Tyrfin continued to work, the fragmentary poem in the *Hervararsaga*, 'Das Lied von der Hunnenschlacht,' *Edd. Min.* 1, tells us. Upon the death of Heiðrekr, Angantýr takes the heritage of his father and becomes king. Hloðr comes from the land of the Huns to claim his share. Angantýr will not acknowledge him nor 'divide in two Tyrfin,' the symbol of power; but he offers Hloðr rich gifts, which the latter spurns. A great battle is fought at Dünheiðr between Goths and Huns; Hloðr is killed by the sword Tyrfin. While he is lying in the field mortally wounded, Angantýr comes up and speaks to him: "I offered thee, brother, limitless possessions, property and many treasures as was befitting thee; now thou hast neither the shining rings nor the land. A curse is upon us, brother; I have become thy slayer; that will ever be known; evil is the fate of the norms." With these words the fragment ends. They may very well have constituted the closing strophe of the original complete poem.

The poems of the *Eddica Minora* are arranged 'nach den Eigenschaften der poetischen Gattung.' It seems that a chronological order might have recommended itself in the poems of the Arngrimr and Halfs cycles; or at least in the case of the *Hervorlied* and the *Hunnenschlacht*, since both are 'Ereignislieder.'

We hope with the editors that this volume will take its place by the side of the editions of the *Edda*.

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FRENCH HISTORICAL GRAMMAR.

Grammaire historique de la langue française. Par K.R. NYROP, Professeur à l'Université de Copenhague. Tome deuxième. Copenhague: det Nordiske Forlag. Leipzig: Harrassowitz. New York: G. E. Stechert. Paris: A. Picard & Fils. 1903. 8vo., pp. viii, 453. (Price: ten francs per volume).

The high praise accorded to the first volume of

this series¹ is in no less degree merited by the second. Professor Nyrop has shown in its preparation a still surer hand and has introduced at the same time any improvements suggested by the reviews of the earlier book. His remarkable command of all periods of the French language, his orderly accuracy of mind and his clearness and simplicity of expression make him a master in the preparation of handbooks. The *Grammaire historique* should be in the hands of every student of the history of French. It is not only a valuable reference book, but it is so full of interest and suggestiveness that to read it continuously is a pleasure and not a task.

The four years which elapsed between the first and the second volume cannot be considered too long for the preparation of the Morphology, but it is permissible to hope that eight years are not still to pass before, with the four volumes of the grammar and the author's *Manuel phonétique du français parlé*,² we shall have a comprehensive historical view of the French language in a group of easily accessible books.

The first volume of the series having embraced the phonology, the second naturally takes up morphology. In its five books are discussed verbs (accent, stem, endings, conjugation), substantives (declension, number, gender, comparison), numerals, articles, and pronouns. The detailed bibliography and indexes which add so much to the value of the first volume are imitated in the second. The former arbitrary system of abbreviations has wisely been abandoned in favor of that of the *Kritischer Jahresbericht*, and the phonetic alphabet of the International Phonetic Association has replaced the previous eclectic set of symbols.

In spite of the 'but surtout pédagogique' of the grammar, which leads Professor Nyrop to include in the treatment of morphology, 'quel-

ques remarques qui regardent surtout la syntaxe,' we may doubt the wisdom of giving in volume II the large amount of syntactical material which will serve, when the series is complete, only to increase the bulkiness of the volume. This is especially true of the chapters on comparison and on the partitive article. He altogether excludes, however, from his treatment of gender the substantives which in French have changed from masculine to feminine or vice versa.

A more general summary of the plan of the work may be omitted, as much would be a repetition of what has been said in reviewing the first volume. I add a few comments of details.

§ 5. The French imperative has no temporal distinctions. *Ayez abandonné la ville quand l'ennemi y entrera* (Maetner, *Gram.*³, p. 374) is not a perfect subjunctive. Cf. Tobler, *V. B.*, vol. I², p. 156, Anm.

§ 11, 3. The form of this statement is not satisfactory, as it would lead to a belief that in the indicative and subjunctive present the disappearance of proparoxytone forms in simple verbs is due in all cases to analogy, when of course in most cases it is because of phonetic changes. It is also to be noted in connection with the examples given in this paragraph that only certain learned verbs show an analogical present after just the model of *estudie*, etc.

§ 57, 2. The termination *-oiz* occurs also in Champagne texts.

§ 119. The 3 plural of *choir* must have originally been not *chient* but *chieent*; an accent (*chiê*) would render the 1 singular more easily understood.

§ 153, 1. In *voici, voilà*, as is shown by the Old-French forms, we probably have not imperatives but indicatives, the whole originally forming a question. See Tobler, *ASNS*, vol. 94, p. 462.

§ 154, 1. *Lais* should not be included in the list of shortened forms peculiar to the imperative, since by the side of *laisser* we have a shorter verb with the same meaning and used in other forms as well as in the imperative.

§ 171. The omission of the first person *vendi* in the paradigm and in the remark below it is probably accidental.

The phraseology of § 315 might create the impression that *vieux*, singular, was a formation on the plural.

¹ Cf. *BBPMB*, 1899, 253-255 (Lepitre); *Museum*, 1899, 232 ff. (Salverda de Grave); *Rom.*, 1899, 477 (Paris); *NTSF*, 1899, 112-116 (Staaff); *MLN*, 1900, 52-58 (Armstrong); *LBIGRPh*, 1900, 65-68 (Herzog); *ASNS*, 1900, 451-454 (Risop); *LCBl*, 1900, 118-119 (Schultz-Gora); *DLZ*, 1901, 2460-2461 (Cloëtta); *RCr*, 1901, 51-54 (Jeanroy); *MA*, 1903, 215-217 (Rousselle); *JBRPh*, VI, 1, 211-212 (Rydberg).

² Deuxième édition, traduite et remaniée par E. Philipot. Copenhague, Leipzig, Paris. 1902. (Price four francs).

§ 431. Why limit *malart* to the *Haguais*, when in a restricted meaning it is still French?

§ 433. *Femelle* used as an adjective should not be classed with *enceinte*, *scarlatine* as having no masculine. The gender of an adjective is not concerned with sex but only with grammatical agreement.

§ 446. A short vowel of the masculine form of the adjective is lengthened in the feminine not only before [z] but also when from free nasal it passes to checked nasal (*grand-grande*), and, according to the usual view, before [v] (*brève, vive*). Nyrop, § 447, 3, gives the vowel of *vive* as short, but in his *Manuel phonétique*, § 119, 4, he recognizes as long the vowels of *pensive*, *juive*, *saive*.

§ 465. The example from George Sand, where only two persons are compared and where the word-order is independent of the comparative form (cf. *il a la voix haute*), should not be cited as a persistence of the construction represented by *chargeant de mes débris les reliques plus chères*.

§ 476. Of the four examples given for Old-French of *plus* qualifying a substantive three are in the expression *plus prodome*, where a feeling of the original adjectival nature of *pro* probably remains. In the fourth, *Yvains est plus sire*, *plus* might be considered as joined to *est* rather than to *sire*. It is true there is no intrinsic difficulty in joining *plus* to substantives when, as in the case cited, they are without the article and have in reality an adjectival quality. Compare the passage from Ph. Mousket cited by Godefroy, *Comp.*, s. v. *seigneur*: *Ceste miracle [et] plus gaignors Fist li sire des plus signors*.

§ 481, 2. By the side of *dui a dui* should be mentioned *dui et dui*.

§ 483, 1, and § 484. There is the omission, common to other treatises discussing *vingt* and *cent*, of an express statement about the existence of a full declension in Old-French embracing the singular as well as the plural. Compare: *Pur vint solz, ceo dist, le durra*, Marie, *Fables*, LXVII, 5; *Chevaliers meine plus de cent (: richement)*, Guigemar, 754; *Et bien xii vint chevaler . . . s'assisent*, *Perceval*, III, 15880; *L'an de grasse mil et III. C. (: sens)*, Jean de Condé, I, 296, 186; *Mielz en valt l'ors que ne funt cinc cens livres*, *Rol.* 516.

§ 490, *rem.* In speaking of the *Quinze-vingts* it might have been well to cite the early mention

of this order by Rustebuef (*Ordres de Paris*, II, 85-96).

§ 523, 4. 'Vulgaire' is a strong term to apply to the pronunciation *i vient* for *il vient*.

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FRENCH DIALECTS.

Glossaire du parler de Pléchâtel (canton de Bain, Ille-et-Vilaine), par G. DOTTIN et J. LANGOUËT. Rennes-Paris, 1901. Pp. clx + 216.

The district studied in this *Glossaire* includes the departments of Ille-et-Vilaine, Loire-Inférieure, and those portions of Côtes-du-Nord and Morbihan lying east of a line drawn from Étables to the mouth of the Vilaine river, and bending slightly to the west in its course.

The *Glossaire*, as explained in the Préface, contains almost all the words used at Pléchâtel which do not coincide exactly with the corresponding French words. These include, in addition to ordinary words, the names of places, persons, and domestic animals. An extensive Introduction by M. Dottin, contains a general study of the grammar of the dialects of Haute-Bretagne and of the grammar of the dialect of Pléchâtel. Appended to the study of the linguistic material is a chapter, by M. Langouët, on "Usages et Traditions" of the commune dealing with such subjects, among others, as geography, marriage and religious customs and superstitions, games, weights, and measures. A song and two tales are given in phonetic transcription. An excellent and, apparently, complete Index of words and place-names is given. The whole is concluded by the addition of two maps, one of Haute-Bretagne, the other of the commune of Pléchâtel.

The first part of the introduction is devoted to a discussion of the phonology and morphology of the various dialects of Haute-Bretagne studied from a number of unedited manuscripts and from a few printed works noted in the bibliography.

The dialects of Haute-Bretagne are closely related to the neighboring ones of Bas-Maine. Their evolution singularly resembles that of French, the